



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney's Docket Number: 00215 IP

Applicant: Lawrence Bishop  
Serial No.: 10/725,172  
Filed: 12/01/2003  
For: **IMPROVED PET RAMP**

TO: THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, DC

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR  
PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

**PETITION FOR ENLARGEMENT OF TIME FOR RESPONSE TO  
ACTION DATED JULY 22, 2004**

The Petitioner hereby petitions the Honorable Commissioner,  
pursuant to 37 CFR 1.103(a) for an enlargement of time for response as well  
as protection of his employment and personal obligations upon mobilization  
into the United States Army Reserve and, in support thereof, would show:

1. The undersigned is a licensed patent counsel and has been so since  
1980. The undersigned is also an Army Reservist and was assigned to the  
350<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Command, APO AE 09348, from December 1, 2003,  
until November 15, 2004, with duty location in the International Zone  
(formerly Green Zone) in the United States Embassy Annex, Baghdad, Iraq,  
from January 25, 2004, until October 9, 2004.

2. The undersigned was counsel for the applicant and mailed the

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referenced application on or about November 30, 2003. On December 1, 2003, with very little warning the undersigned was mobilized and deployed to Baghdad for military reasons. While the orders stated the potential of a 545 day deployment, a substantially less period of time was envisioned. At the time of departure I was under the belief that I would be returned to civilian life in time to respond to any patent or trademark actions which may have come in during my absence. I have had my office mail checked regularly as well as my phone messages and have managed to retain some of my business, although some will be lost. I learned of this action in March, 2004, and because of mail difficulties did not see it until early June, 2004. The circumstances are more fully described in the attached Declaration, which is herein incorporated. In summary, such establish that the situation was unavoidable through no fault of the undersigned or the applicants and for the benefit of the United States.

3. There are 2 laws which provide that Reservists who are deployed in service of their country should be protected from prejudice in their personal and business lives resulting from such service. One is the Service Members' Relief Act (P.L 108-189) which provides that civil obligations are to be stayed and that executory contractual obligations can and should be modified to avoid prejudice to the service member. The other is the